

REMARKS

In the Official Action dated March 22, 2004, claims 26-28, 46-49 and 56-58 are allowed. Claim 30 is objected to and rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

This response addresses all outstanding objections and rejections and places all claims in condition for allowance.

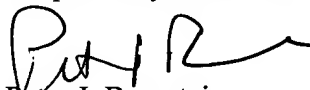
Claim 30 has been objected to as allegedly having improper dependency. Claim 30 has also been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph as allegedly unclear.

In response, Applicants have now presented claim 30 in a previously amended form which provides proper dependency from claim 26. As previously presented, claim 30 recites a nucleic acid (according to claim 26), which is of human origin.

Claim 30 is therefore both definite and clear in accordance with 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph and not previously rejected by the Examiner.

Accordingly, the present application is in condition for allowance, which action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



Peter I. Bernstein
Registration No. 43,497

Scully, Scott, Murphy & Presser
400 Garden City Plaza
Garden City, New York 11530
(516) 742-4343

PIB:dg